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SUMMARY-AFRICA

3. USSR: Soviet attitude toward Palestine situation--Ambassador Smith attributes the lack of significant Soviet comment on the Committee's report on Palestine to the fact that the US and UK Governments have not

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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yet taken definite positions on the report. Once the US and UK have committed themselves, he expects the Soviets to exploit the situation to their advantage by attacking as "imperialist intervention" any stand taken. The Soviets prefer to avoid choosing sides, he adds, but Arab unrest will probably present such opportunities to Soviet propaganda and machinations in the Near East as to make open opposition to Zionism unnecessary.

4. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Repercussions of Soviet decision on troops-- According to Ambassador Steinhardt, the success of President Benes and Foreign Minister Masaryk in persuading Marshal Konev to stop large-scale Soviet troop movements across Czechoslovakia until after the elections has (a) "materially weakened" the position of pro-Soviet Premier Fierlinger, (b) strengthened the position of Masaryk, Fierlinger's most outspoken critic, and (c) discomfited the Czech Communists, who feel they have been "let down" by the Soviets.

5. RUMANIA: US protests Soviet expulsion of Markham-- General Schuyler reports that the Soviet Chairman, ACC, Rumania, has refused to consider the US protest against the expulsion of R. H. Markham [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The State Department is requesting the Soviet Government to rescind the expulsion order immediately and has asked General Schuyler to demand that the ACC Rumania postpone Markham's expulsion pending a decision in Moscow.

6. AUSTRIA: US proposals regarding independence-- The State Department has recommended to US Political Advisor Erhardt that the Control Council be urged to consider (prior to the 15 June meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers at which the US draft treaty for Austria will be presented for discussion) (a) General Clark's 25 April statement on US policy and the US program for immediate relief, and (b) an agreement on specific cases involving German assets under Potsdam, including land. Erhardt is instructed (a) to do everything possible to break down zonal barriers in order to prevent divergent reconstruction policies and the ultimate split of Austria into eastern and western zones, and (b) to discuss the question of US economic assistance with the Austrian Government.

The Department believes that the Soviets are deferring action on a peace treaty and troop withdrawals pending arrangements which permit

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complete Soviet control of Austrian economic resources. The Department does not wish Austria's independence to be compromised by such arrangements.

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FAR EAST

8. N.E.I.: Possibility of improvement in negotiations--Consul General Foote in Batavia believes that Sjahrir now may desire an early agreement with the Dutch. If this proves true, and if Sjahrir has convinced other native leaders of the inadvisability of further delay in negotiations, Foote considers the possibility of ultimate settlement is strengthened.

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